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FROM : STEN GERFAST

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Feb. 07 2006 12:20PM P1

571-273-8300

FAX ~~703 872 9306~~ ATT; JERMIE COZART FEB 7-06  
TO: JERMIE COZART RE: ADVISORY FEB 2-06 1 PAGE  
PATENT EXAMINER : ART UNIT 3726

I WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOU AND DISCUSS PAT. APPL. 10/706,416  
AT 1:30 PM ON THURSDAY FEB 9TH. IF THIS IS NOT  
CONVENIENT FOR YOU, PLEASE FAX-BACK (651-454-1923)

I APPARENTLY MISUNDERSTOOD YOUR OBJECTION TO CLAIM 6  
THAT WOULD BE ALLOWABLE IF REWRITTEN IN INDEPENDENT FORM;  
AND WOULD PROPOSE:

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

15. (Replaces claim 6) (currently amended) Butt-joining method comprising:

FEB 07 2006

In two abutting metal strips punching a substantially keystone shaped slot into both abutments,  
wherein said slots have two rounded edges produced by both a punch and a die,  
inserting into said two slots a deformable slug, clinching said slug into said slots,  
thereby securely butt-joining said strips.

WITH CLAIM 7-14  
THEN BEING RE-WRITTEN  
TO OVERCOME THE 112 REJECTION.

TO ALLEVIATE  
THE HIRAO ET AL  
REJECTION

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED  
Sten Gerfast FEB 7-06

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